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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHKV #1413 2041400  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 221400Z JUL 08  
FM AMEMBASSY KYIV  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6051  
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0060  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0363  
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY 0027

UNCLAS KYIV 001413

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [KNNP](#) [MNUC](#) [ASEC](#) [ENRG](#) [KCRM](#) [PARM](#) [PINR](#) [UP](#)  
SUBJECT: UKRAINE: UPDATE ON REPORTED RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL  
SEIZURE

REF: A. AWAN-SCHEINMAN EMAIL OF 7/21  
[1](#)B. KYIV 1341  
[1](#)C. STATE 072687  
[1](#)D. 2007 STATE 162091

[1](#)1. (SBU) Summary: Energy Attache received an update on July 21 from Ukraine's nuclear regulatory officials regarding a potential radioactive material smuggling incident (ref B). GOU experts have now finished a detailed analysis of the seized material and have determined that it is of NO proliferation concern. A criminal investigation against the potential smugglers will continue, however. End Summary.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Following up on reports of a potential cesium or enriched uranium smuggling incident in Ukraine (refs B-D), Energy Attache received an update on July 21 from our contacts at the Kyiv Institute of Nuclear Research (KINR) and the State Nuclear Regulatory Committee of Ukraine (SNRCU) (Please Protect).

[1](#)3. (SBU) The two suspect containers, which had been interdicted by the GOU in Cherkassy oblast in early July (ref B), were delivered to KINR on July 17 for forensic and isotopic analyses of the material. (Note: DOE has provided equipment to KINR to perform such investigations. End Note.) KINR completed the analyses on July 18 and forwarded its report to the SNRCU on July 21. KINR analyzed only one container as both were identical.

[1](#)4. (SBU) KINR's analysis found there to be no Cesium-137 in the containers. Each container contains approximately 200 milligrams of Uranium Oxide with enrichment of 0.3 percent. The material also contains Vitamin B-6. According to both KINR and SNRCU, the material present is of NO CONCERN. (Note: The GOU has not yet released these results to the public. End Note.)

[1](#)5. (SBU) The containers will be transferred for storage at the Kyiv Radon facility once the Cherkasy authorities make the transportation and other budget necessities available. The ongoing criminal investigation into the would-be "smugglers" will continue. (Comment: It seems likely that the suspects were trying to pass off the relatively harmless material in the containers as enriched uranium as a money-making scam. End Comment.)  
TAYLOR